



REVIEWS

BOOKS

Reviewed by Ruth Parnell

THE MYSTERY OF THE MIN MIN LIGHT

by Maureen Kozicka

Published by M. Kozicka (1994), Australia
ISBN 0-646-18711-2 (140pp s/c)

Price: AUD\$16.95 + AUD\$3.00 p&h in
Aust; NZ/PNG add AUD\$6.00 p&h; S-E
Asia add AUD\$7.00; UK/Eur/USA/
Canada add AUD\$10.00

Available: **Australia**—Helen Kozicka, PO
Box 20, Machan's Beach, Qld 4878.

One of the great mysteries of outback Australia is the phenomenon known as the Min Min light. Appearing as a sphere of energy or light, the Min Min has struck both awe and terror into the hearts of those who have witnessed its strange behaviour as it glides, streaks, dances and hovers over the landscape, arriving without any warning and disappearing without a trace.

Earth lights—if these are what the Min Min lights are—are by no means limited to Australia, but, judging by Aboriginal stories, they have been part of the landscape since ancient times. The stories have only become more prolific with European settlement.

Fascinated by the Min Min tales she'd heard, author Maureen Kozicka decided to field-research the phenomenon in 1992. Her focus was on Queensland sightings, although reports have been made through-

out the Australian mainland. The result is this compilation of 142 compelling eyewitness accounts. (Sadly, Maureen died before she could publicise her book.)

The phenomenon cries out for scientific analysis, but because of its fleeting and unpredictable nature this would obviously be a difficult task.

OPEN SKIES, CLOSED MINDS

by Nick Pope

Published by Simon & Schuster (1996), UK
ISBN 0-684-81664-4 (280pp h/c)

Price: AUD\$34.95; NZD\$45.00;
STG£14.99

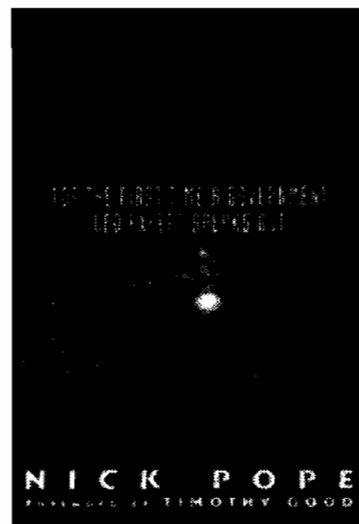
Available: **Aust**—Dist. by Simon & Schuster, ph (02) 416 3255; **NZ**—Dist. by Pan MacMillan, ph (09) 415 6677; **UK**—Dist. by Simon & Schuster Ltd, ph (0)1442 882222, fax (0)142 882288.

After decades of official silence, and despite the thousands of 'unexplained' UFO reports, the British Ministry of Defence stated in April this year that there was "no evidence which might substantiate the existence of such phenomena". Could Nick Pope's bosses at the MoD be the "closed minds" to whom he refers in the title of his book?

Nick Pope's job description at the MoD changed dramatically when he was appointed to the Secretariat (Air Staff)2a—the UFO Desk—in 1991 for a three-year term. This UFO novice thrust himself with gusto into researching his new subject area, interviewing eyewitnesses, comparing notes with ufologists,

raising Whitehall eyebrows, standardising UFO reporting procedures, accessing 'lost' archives, making press statements, and ultimately concluding that UFOs and extraterrestrials are real—and at least some of them should represent a real threat to the defence of the British realm (if not the entire world!). (See Pope's letter in NEXUS 3/05.)

Pope's book is a credible, open-minded thesis which highlights some intriguing, alarming, even convincing evidence from UFO cases in the UK—for example, the Rendlesham Forest incident—and abroad that can't be explained away. Something's definitely going on and, in Nick Pope's opinion, the public has a right to know exactly what.





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ENCOUNTER

By Kelly Cahill

Published by HarperCollinsPublishers (1996), Australia

ISBN 0-7322-5784-0 (250pp p/b)

Price: AUD\$12.95; NZD\$17.95

Available: **Australia**—Distributed by HarperCollins, PO Box 321, Pymble, NSW 2073, ph +61 (0)2 9952 5000, fax +61 (0)2 9952 5666 (orders outside A/asia, ph/fax for p&h quote); **NZ**—Dist. by HarperCollins, ph (09) 443 9401.

NEXUS readers should recall Kelly Cahill's amazing and chilling story of her UFO close encounter whilst driving along a Victorian country backroad in August 1993 (see NEXUS 2/24). Her horrifying experience with a group of 'soulless', red-eyed, black humanoids is portrayed in detail in her long-awaited book, which is assured a place in the annals of ufology.

Kelly's report is significant for many reasons, not least because local ufologists and psychologists have been able to verify the accounts of another group of eyewitnesses present that fateful night—as Kelly was soon able to recall—and to gather evidence which confirms the validity of the encounter.

While Kelly had some conscious recollection of her experience, she needed time to remember much of the detail. This book is her account of how she pieced together the facts of her painful yet ulti-

mately life-transforming journey.

Her discovery process involved some unexpected, frightening alien visitations at night, as well as disturbing dreams and flashbacks. But it also brought Kelly some exhilarating metaphysical insights which have broadened her perspective on 'life, the universe and everything', and have given her the courage and determination to tell her story.

SAFE AS HOUSES? Ill Health and Electro-stress in the Home

by David Cowan & Rodney Girdlestone

Published by Gateway Books (1996), UK

ISBN 1-85860-037-5 (224pp s/c)

Price: AUD\$25.95; NZD\$31.95;

STG£8.95; USD\$13.95

Available: **Australia**—Banyan Tree Book Distributors, ph (08) 363 4244; **NZ**—Peaceful Living Publications, ph (07) 571 8105, fax (07) 571 8513; **UK**—Gateway Books, ph 01225 835127; **USA**—National Book Network, 4720 Boston Way, Lanham, MD 20706.

The expression, "safe as houses", can never be taken for granted after reading this book. Our homes and our health can not only be affected by electromagnetic stress from power lines and appliances, but also by geopathic stress from errant Earth radiation. In fact, a combination of stresses from these sources can create an extremely harmful environment.

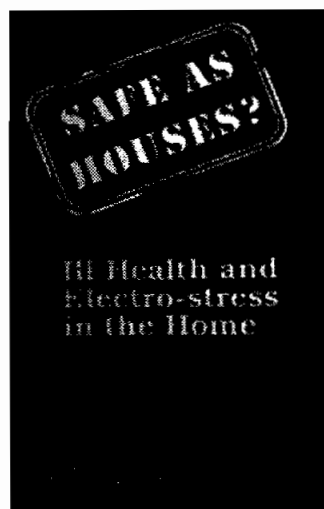
The significance of these radiation interplays has been highlighted in this collaboration of two specialists: David Cowan,

who dowses energy lines and helps people suffering from geopathic stress, and Rodney Girdlestone, a chemical engineer-turned-natural medicine teacher whose focus is on treating electromagnetic stress.

In this practical book they combine their expertise to make it easy for you to determine whether you, your home, your office and your neighbourhood are at risk.

Not only do you learn how to assess the dangers from man-made radiation sources, but also how they can be neutralised. The authors show a variety of techniques for achieving this.

As electromagnetic radiation will increasingly continue to affect the quality of our lives, we would be foolish not to incorporate the authors' advice into our health regimens.





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FIELDS OF MYSTERY: The Crop Circle Phenomenon in Sussex by Andy Thomas

Published by S.B. Publications (1996), UK
ISBN 1-85770-096-1 (96pp s/c)
Price: AUD\$15.00; NZD\$20.00;
STG£7.95; USD\$13.50 (inc. p&h)
Available: UK—NEXUS Office, 55
Queens Rd, East Grinstead, West Sussex
RH19 1BG, ph +44 (0)1342 322854.

The "fields of mystery" evocatively referred to here are none other than those fields of the English southeastern counties of East and West Sussex, in which a large number and variety of crop formations have been found each summer.

Author Andy Thomas's first pictogram encounter in 1991 inspired him to investigate the mystery, and together with other intrepid circle-hunters he soon became active with the Centre for Crop Circle Studies. Meantime, as Editor of the monthly journal, *SC (Sussex Circular)*, he's able to access a great deal of fascinating documentation about the phenomenon.

In *Fields of Mystery*, Thomas presents breathtaking 'circular evidence' in diagrammatic form and photographs (many in full colour), and describes each one's history faithfully and with flair. He touches on the early years of the phenomenon in Sussex, but turns his attention primarily to the formations of 1990 to 1995—some of which will already be familiar to you.

This is a welcome addition in the field of cerealogy, and the ground it covers is really a microcosm of a grand design which is resonating all around the world.

POPULAR ALIENATION: A Steamshovel Press Reader edited by Kenn Thomas

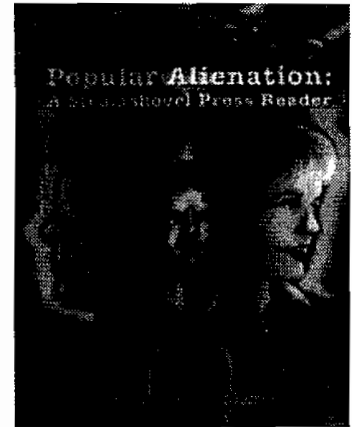
Published by IllumiNet Press (1995), USA
ISBN 1-881532-07-0 (343pp l/f s/c)
Price: AUD\$30.00; NZD\$45.95 + p&h;
STG£15.95 + £2 p&h; USD\$19.95 + p&h
Available: Aust—NEXUS Magazine, PO
Box 30, Mapleton, Qld 4560; NZ—NEXUS
Office, PO Box 34735, Birkenhead,
Auckland, ph (09) 416 7320, fax (09) 416
7340; UK—Counter Productions, PO Box
556, London SE5 ORL; USA—Adventures
Unlimited, PO Box 74, Kempton, IL 60946.

One of the best 'conspirazines' around would have to be the Missouri-based *Steamshovel Press*. Its roots are in Beat-era sensibilities but its net is wide in terms of the 'underground' philosophies and sub-cultural viewpoints it taps into. *Popular Alienation* is a fitting title for this anthology of nine issues of *Steamshovel* (plus a never-before-published 'virtual' issue), for alienation has been a popular theme for quite some time.

A quick flick through this weighty collection makes you appreciate why certain seemingly unrelated subjects are more closely connected than you've been led to believe. In fact, *Steamshovel* is one of the few 'zines able to make valid links between JFK, CIA, LSD, UFO and MIB,

all in the one sentence! This *Reader* taps into the broader picture of conspiracy politics, particularly on the US front, and dishes up the nitty gritty details you won't find in the mainstream press on subjects as diverse as the Gemstone Files, Area 51 and Moon bases, the Turin Shroud, Reich's secret files, CIA mind control, the Mothman, Nazi science, the Trilaterals, Inslaw and more.

Popular Alienation is a feast for the conspiracy-hungry with its cross-disciplinary, tell-it-like-it-is approach, jam-packed with contributions from such notables as Noam Chomsky, Stanton Friedman, Allen Ginsberg, John Keel, Jim Keith, Timothy Leary, Jonathan Vankin, Robert Anton Wilson—as well as Kenn Thomas, editor of *Steamshovel*, whose latest exposé on Danny Casolaro and the 'Octopus' cabal begins in this issue of NEXUS.



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THE WHITE DEATH

by Julian Cribb

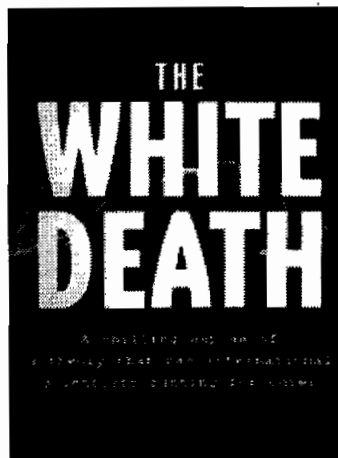
Published by Angus & Robertson/
HarperCollins Publishers (1996), Australia
ISBN 0-207-19041-0 (266pp p/b)
Price: AUD\$16.95; NZD\$24.95
Available: **Australia**—Distributed by
HarperCollins, PO Box 321, Pymble NSW
2073, ph +61 (0)2 9952 5000, fax +61
(0)2 9952 5666 (orders outside Asia,
phone/fax for p&h quote); **NZ**—Dist. by
HarperCollins, ph (09) 443 9401.

One of the major public health concerns today is the risk of animal diseases finding their way across the species barrier into the human population.

In *The White Death*, award-winning Australian science writer and journalist Julian Cribb delves into the issues surrounding the origin of AIDS and concludes that monkey experiments performed over four decades ago could have inadvertently transferred a monkey virus to humans, with dire consequences.

There is overwhelming evidence in the vaccination literature to suggest that contaminated monkey kidney tissue cultures have been used in the production of all sorts of vaccines, including polio. Here, Julian Cribb, by linking the African polio vaccination campaign with the trail of AIDS, postulates that these alien microorganisms could well have mutated once introduced to human hosts.

Cribb's thesis is a warning that new disease plagues will inevitably emerge which modern science will be at a loss to treat, regardless of their source.



SPIES: The Secret Agents Who Changed the Course of History

by Ernest Volkman

Published by J. Wiley & Sons (1996), USA
ISBN 0-471-15403-2 (s/c)
Price: AUD\$28.95; NZD\$39.95;
STG£12.99; USD\$16.95; CAN\$23.95
Available: **Aust**—Dist. by Jacaranda
Wiley, ph (02) 805 1100; **NZ**—Jacaranda
Wiley, ph (06) 355 1298; **UK**—J. Wiley,
ph 01243 779777; **USA/Canada**—John
Wiley & Sons, ph (212) 850 6000.

As journalist Ernest Volkman reminds us, espionage is among the oldest professions in the world, but the 20th century has seen it become increasingly institutionalised, and further compartmentalised with the establishment of the electronic information age and its ongoing technological 'improvements'.

In *Spies*, Volkman presents a pastiche of those 'intelligence agents' who have made their mark on world events this century—for better or worse, whatever side or sides they might have been on at the time—and inspired a thousand-and-one spy thrillers.

Volkman is objective in his approach to these individuals and the importance of their work, but he neither glamorises nor glorifies—that would be irresponsible. Spies, he insists, are governed by three commandments: (1) Don't get caught; (2) If you get caught, the agency has never heard of you; and (3) No other commandments are necessary. Unfortunately, the reader is left wanting for more, as each entry in *Spies* averages only a few pages, and recent espionage dramas are excluded (probably for good reason).

MARS/EARTH ENIGMA: A Sacred Message to Mankind

by DeAnna Emerson

Published by Galde Press (1996), USA
ISBN 1-880090-18-X (314pp s/c)
Price: STG£18.50; USD\$19.95 + p&h
Available: **UK**—Gazelle Book Services,
Lancaster, ph 01524 68765; **USA**—
Adventures Unlimited, PO Box 74,
Kempton, IL 60946, ph (815) 253 6390,
fax (815) 253 6300.

The mysterious Face and pyramidal structures on Mars, identified and enhanced from photographs taken by NASA's *Viking Orbiter* in 1976, have captured our imagination and sparked calls for the space agency to be more open in the interests of scientific enquiry and the



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public right-to-know.

DeAnna Emerson, a writer, scholar and student of ancient religions and archaeology, argues in *Mars/Earth Enigma* that the structures are the marks of an advanced civilisation—but one which has had a significant relationship with Earth.

So what does it all mean? Emerson has discovered markings, or inscribed symbols, on the Martian Face which can be likened to those symbols used by ancient goddess-worshipping societies on Earth, and she includes many examples of such glyphs and scripts to prove her point. She observes that the same sacred geometric symbols can be seen in the mystical Pythagorean numbers and even in many of the crop circle pictograms, and suggests that they may even contain within them the keys to higher-dimensional physics.

This is a fascinating, multidisciplinary treatment which not only explains the heritage of the matriarchal societies of pre-history, but suggests a much stronger Mother Goddess connection with Mars than is usually recognised. Emerson also raises important issues concerning equality of the sexes, the Vatican's role in the suppression of women, the condition of world power structures, and the existence of extraterrestrial life.

I AM WITH YOU ALWAYS: True Stories of Encounters with Jesus by G. Scott Sparrow, Ed.D.

Published by Bantam (1995), USA ISBN 0-553-37523-7 (231pp s/c)
Price: AUD\$17.95; USD\$11.95; CAN\$16.95
Available: **Australia**—Distributed by Transworld Publishers, 40 Yeo St, Neutral Bay, NSW 2089, ph +61 (0)2 908 4366; **USA/Canada**—Bantam/Doubleday, ph (212) 354 6500.

The Christ encounter phenomenon has been recorded throughout the last 2,000 years, but in contemporary times its experience would seem to be more widespread than is generally believed. In fact, it's surprising just how common it is.

Psychotherapist Gregory Scott Sparrow, who specialises in an innovative transpersonal dreamwork therapy, has been researching the Christ encounter for the last five years and has amassed a variety of extraordinary accounts from ordinary people whose lives have suddenly become transformed for the better—just when they needed them to be.

Sparrow defines the Christ encounter as "any experience in which a person perceives the presence of a being whom he or she identifies as Jesus or Christ", and he excludes encounters with other identified or unidentified spiritual beings. These encounters can come in dreams, waking visions or near-death experiences, and happen unexpectedly to people of all ages from all walks of life (not necessarily to Christian believers), leaving witnesses in no doubt as to their reality.

In his research, Sparrow has identified several categories of Christ encounter: awakening, physical healing, emotional healing, confrontational, initiatory, instructional and confirmational. The common thread running through all these personal stories is an experience of the power of divine love and wisdom, a renewed conviction to life and living, and a feeling that Jesus Christ is with us always—just as he's supposed to have promised. These are moving stories, whatever your belief system.

THE PARADIGM CONSPIRACY by Denise Breton & Christopher Largent

Published by Hazelden (1996), USA ISBN1-56838-106-9 (399pp h/c)
Price: USD\$23.95 + foreign p&h; CAN\$32.95

Available: **USA**—Hazelden, PO Box 176, Center City, MN 55012-0176, ph (612) 257 4010.

Everything we think, feel and do is shaped by paradigms, our mental models. When individual experience combines with the collective, a larger paradigm is created, which we call consensus reality. The fact is, we can become so system-bound that we don't even realise the model no longer works for ourselves or society, let alone be able to change it. We unwittingly participate in a big lie.

Authors Denise Breton and Christopher Largent, a husband-and-wife writing-and-teaching team specialising in philosophy and comparative religion, argue in *The Paradigm Conspiracy* that our systems—government, education, religion, business, science, cultural patterns and even the family itself—can conspire to violate our human potential.

These systems perpetuate themselves by promoting addictions to substances, emotions and processes which stifle individual

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freedom and creativity, making us become people we never wanted to be. How can we be truly healthy and happy when our systems are dysfunctional?

We are all conspirators in what we call reality, and so, according to the authors, we can all conspire to bring a new paradigm into existence. There is no point trying to fix unworkable models based on fear, greed and power; instead, we need to put into place systems and structures that acknowledge and nurture the soul and spirit. Inspired by ideas from new science, spiritual traditions and history, Breton and Largent describe workable paradigms that prove this can be done.

THE NATURAL WAY TO BETTER BABIES: Preconception Health Care for Prospective Parents

by Francesca Naish & Janette Roberts
Published by Random House (Aust) (1996)
ISBN 0-09-18135-0 (382pp s/c)
Price: AUD\$24.95; NZD\$29.95

Available: **Australia**—Dist. by Random House, Milsons Point, NSW 2061, ph +61 (02) 9954 9966; orders outside A/asia, phone/fax for p&h quote; **NZ**—Random House, ph (09) 444 7197.

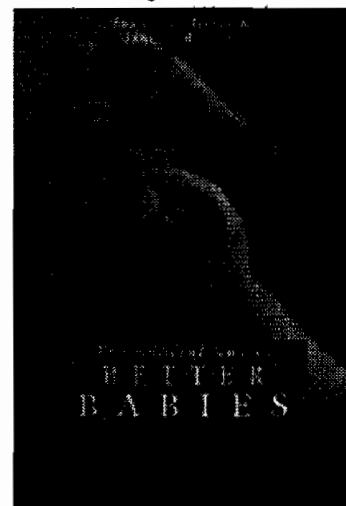
The focus of *...Better Babies* is on preconception care for prospective parents; for, as studies have shown, if both of them can improve their general health and avoid hazardous lifestyle and environmental factors in the months leading up to conception, they greatly increase their prospects of having a child who is physically, emotionally and mentally healthy—and will stay that way.

Natural fertility management is an holistic approach that is practical and successful, as authors Francesca Naish and Janette Roberts can confidently attest after many years' clinical experience in natural reproductive health care. Here, they explain what prospective parents can do in everyday life to prepare better for conception, giving guidance on diet, lifestyle and exercise, on reducing stress and staying positive, on detoxifying oneself and one's surroundings, and improving general male and female reproductive health.

Their advice on natural contraception and conception is responsible and enlightening. Indeed, they suggest that attempts to conceive be delayed until both partners

can properly attend to their own health and well-being—when conception can be a better-timed, conscious, optimistic joint effort conducive to a healthy baby from the outset.

If you're contemplating having a child, whether for the first time or not, this book is essential reading.



LIVING WITH HIV/AIDS: A Practical Guide for Staying Well

by Peter de Ruyter
Published by Allen & Unwin (1996), Australia

ISBN 1-86448-080-7 (309pp s/c)
Price: AUD\$29.95 + o/s p&h; NZD\$39.95
Available: **Australia**—Dist. by Allen & Unwin, St Leonards, NSW 2065, ph +61 (02) 9901 4088, fax +61 (02) 9906 2218; **NZ**—Dist. by Archetype Book Agents, ph (09) 638 7008, fax (09) 638 7007.

As a natural therapist with over 10 years' experience in treating HIV and AIDS patients, Sydney-based Peter de Ruyter can write with some authority on alternative, holistic treatments that are practical, effective and safe, without the damaging side-effects that are often characteristic of orthodox drug options.

In *Living with HIV/AIDS*, de Ruyter argues that the first hurdle for medical practitioners and their patients to overcome is a mindset which denies the validity of alternative ways of looking at and dealing with the condition. He contends that medical science will never come up with a cure for AIDS unless it explores new territory—where the environment in which a micro-organism develops is as important as the organism itself—and includes Lifeorce in the total picture.



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But, with so much at stake in AIDS medical research—money, power, reputations—a paradigm shift may well be a long way off.

De Ruyter advocates a higher-dimensional approach to health and healing, one that incorporates metaphysical concepts and self-help, mind-over-matter techniques such as creative visualisation. These are essential adjuncts in a successful treatment, which should also include appropriate diet, lifestyle and supplementation with natural medications—which he describes in this book with reference to specific symptoms.

Relief and even cure of HIV and AIDS conditions is achievable, according to de Ruyter, but sufferers must be prepared to adopt life-promoting habits and strategies and stick with them wholeheartedly. That way, they can empower themselves instead of placing their faith in a system where their chances are slim.

KEEPER OF GENESIS: A Quest for the Hidden Legacy of Mankind by Robert Bauval and Graham Hancock

Published by Heinemann (1996), UK ISBN 0-434-00302-6 (h/c), 0-434-00305-0 (l/f s/c) (370pp)

Price: AUD\$24.95 (s/c); NZD\$29.95 (s/c); STG£16.99 (h/c)

Available: **Aust**—Dist. by Reed Books, ph (03) 9245 7183; **NZ**—Reed Books, ph (09) 480 6039; **UK**—Reed Consumer Books, London, ph +44 (0)171 581 9393.

Keeper of Genesis is another remarkable work that throws conventional wisdom about our ancient origins into turmoil. Here, Robert Bauval (*The Orion Mystery*) and Graham Hancock (*Fingerprints of the Gods*) expand on Egypt's mysteries and the Great Pyramid's Osiris/Orion and Isis/Sirius links by reversing the astronomical clock, using computer simulations of star maps and precessional cycles.

The only period when the star patterns exactly match the orientation of structures around the Giza necropolis is the year 10,500 BC!

Furthermore, this period marks the beginning of a precessional half-cycle, the dawning of the Age of Leo and the "First Time"—no better heralded than by the Great Sphinx, built to face exactly due east at precisely the right time: the vernal equinox of 10,500 BC. This would seem

to support geological and climatological evidence that the Sphinx is much more ancient than archaeologists and Egyptologists dare contemplate: conservatively, 7,000 years; possibly well over 15,000 years!

Speculation is rising about a legendary, underground "Hall of Records" in the vicinity of the Sphinx, particularly after a recent seismographic survey may have identified such a chamber below the monument's front paws. But Bauval and Hancock have superimposed a star map onto the Giza layout which points to another, deeper location for this chamber—below the rear of the Sphinx. They now urge the Egyptian authorities to allow full public disclosure of the progress and findings of any new searches of Giza's tunnels. (See Hancock's update in this issue of NEXUS.)

These revelations have profound implications. Could the Giza structures have been back-engineered to fit the star patterns of the "First Time"? Could blueprints for the pyramids have been passed down from an earlier, more advanced civilisation? Could the Sphinx be the grand design of an even earlier culture which built the monument to align with the future stellar projection of 10,500 BC? The riddle is still being unravelled.

FROM ATLANTIS TO THE SPHINX by Colin Wilson

Published by Virgin Publishing (1996), UK ISBN 1-85227-526-X (304pp h/c)

Price: AUD\$39.95; NZD\$49.95; STG£15.99; USD\$n/a; CAN\$32.95

Available: **Aust**—Dist. by Hodder Headline, ph (02) 638 5299; **NZ**—Dist. by Hodder Moa Beckett, Auckland, ph (09) 478 1000; **UK**—Dist. by Virgin Publishing Ltd, ph 0181 968 7554; **USA**—London Bridge, Buffalo, NY, ph 1-800 805 1083, fax (416) 445 5967.

Best-selling author Colin Wilson admits that his inspiration for this book was the research of the noted French esotericist-Hermetic philosopher, René Schwaller de Lubicz, who, from earlier this century, claimed that the ancient Egyptians possessed "a grand, interrelated and complete system of knowledge". He also believed that the erosion patterns on the Great Sphinx are caused by water, not wind and sand—an observation only confirmed in 1991 by US geologist Robert Schoch, and

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still disputed by Egyptologists.

Atlantis to the Sphinx implies a connection to which Schwaller alluded: that the Sphinx had to have been built by a civilisation which arrived at Giza intact and highly developed—perhaps from Atlantis before its demise?

Colin Wilson argues that what enabled the Egyptians to perform such wondrous feats was their mindset—a unified, bicameral consciousness in direct contact with Nature and the Universe—which was subjugated in 1,250 BC by forces and events which favoured left-brain traits: mindsets which may have kick-started the evolution of individuality but at the expense of a glorious, collective heritage.

Fortunately, what has characterised human evolution these last few centuries is the development of imagination together with intellect. Perhaps we can yet build a bright future and understand our mysterious past according to our own devices.

SECRET POWER: New Zealand's Role in the International Spy Network by Nicky Hager

Published by Craig Potton Publishing (1996), New Zealand

ISBN 0-908802-35-8 (299pp s/c)

Price: NZD\$34.95 + p&h (phone/fax for foreign p&h quote)

Available: **New Zealand**—Craig Potton Publishing, PO Box 555, Nelson, ph +64 (0)3 548 9009, fax +64 (0)3 546 9192.

For years we have suspected that intelligence agencies electronically eavesdrop on our phone conversations, faxes and

telexes, and now our e-mail and web sites, by tapping into 'key words'. This new book, *Secret Power*, by long-time New Zealand peace activist Nicky Hager, confirms our worst fears by spilling the beans on the Echelon system and its frightening implications as the tool of a global espionage network.

New Zealand's spy agency, the GCSB, uses Echelon for the automatic interception of communications routinely picked up by its Waihopai satellite tracking station and Tangimoana listening station and transmits them to the US National Security Agency's facilities across the Pacific. With junior membership (with Australia and Canada) in the secret UKUSA 'alliance', NZ is assigned to monitor communications in the South Pacific and Antarctica—and, in this post-Cold War era, that means spying on individuals and companies as well as governments.

Readers familiar with HAARP and Bruce Cathie's research into Earth grid harmonics will glean an extra dimension from *Secret Power*. This is a diligently researched exposé which is already proving to be an embarrassment to many government agencies and politicians.

SOFTWARE

Reviewed by Duncan Roads

CYBERSAYER™ version 2.1 by Majistyks (1995), Australia

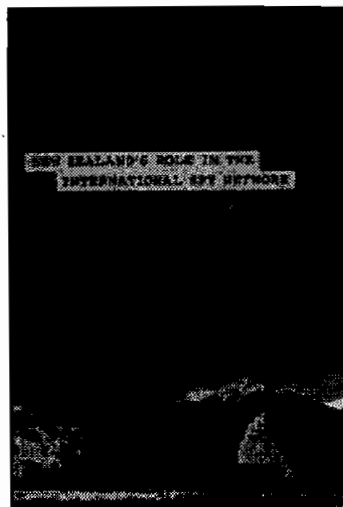
Price: AUD\$70.00 + AUD\$5.00 o/s p&h

Available: **Australia**—Majistyks, PO Box 550, Maleny, Qld 4552, ph +61 (0)74 99 9060, fax +61 (0)74 99 9818, e-mail: cybersyr@majistyks.com.au; web page: <http://www.majistyks.com.au> (see ad this issue).

To run this nifty piece of software on your computer, you will need a PC (or Mac) that runs Windows 3.1 or later. *CyberSayer* occupies about 3MB on the hard-drive. The Shareware version (see their web page) requires slightly less.

CyberSayer was developed as an interactive tool, to be used to 'help you change your life'—for the better. *The Eye of Horus* is the first component released by the developers. It draws on a huge database of inspirational or interesting sayings and messages and usually finishes with something relevant for the day.

At least mine did! A great package.





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AUDIO

Reviewed by Richard Giles

BLOOD OF THE LAND

by **Burning Sky**

Produced by Robert Doyle for Canyon Records (1995), Phoenix, AZ, USA
Price: AUD\$18.95 (cass.), AUD\$28.95 (CD); USD\$9.98 (cass.), USD\$15.98 (CD) + \$2.50 p&h (54mins)

Available: **Australia**—New World Productions, ph (07) 3367 0788; **USA**—Four Winds Trading Co., AZ, ph 1-800 456 5444; Canyon, ph (602) 266 4823.

Burning Sky use a blend of Native American flute, acoustic guitar and percussion. The haunting North American flute has always held that canyon-echo sound, summoning generations of ancestors. It's used skilfully here to capture the lost power of a desolate tribe or the beauty of secret lovers meeting in the moonlight. A fine combination of percussion and guitar adds to the depth and rhythm.

CELTIC DESTINY

by **Bruce Mitchell**

Produced by Bruce Mitchell for Oasis Productions (1995), Toronto, Canada
Price: AUD\$19.95, CAN\$10.99 (cass.); AUD\$29.95, CAN\$15.99 (CD) (58mins)
Available: **Aust**—Movieplay Australia, ph (02) 9905 0199; **Canada**—Oasis Productions, ph (416) 467 8820.

The Celtic revival has offered some beautiful and inspiring music. Bruce Mitchell, producer of two previous albums of Celtic sounds, has worked as a musician in folk and rock groups, and scored film and TV documentaries. *Celtic Destiny* mixes some gentle and lively traditional songs with his own compositions. The work on some of the tracks is beautiful and flowing, with rollicking penny whistles, recorder and violin joining in. Excellent Celtic material.

THE TRANCE OF SEVEN COLORS

by **Maleem Mahmoud Ghania**

Produced by Bill Laswell for Axiom/Island Records (1994), USA
Price: AUD\$19.95, USD\$10.00(cass.); AUD\$29.95, USD\$16.00 (CD) (71mins)
Available: **Australia**—Island Records, Sydney, ph (02) 9207 0500; **USA**—Island Records, New York, ph (212) 603 3947.

Any production involving Bill Laswell's

hand is certain to be something special. He has a grand collection, released via Axiom, to his credit. Maleem Mahmoud Ghania, chief musician on this album, draws his skill and learning from his ancestors, the African Peul and Bambara from Mali and Guinea.

The role of the Maleem (master) is to lead the musical ceremony, via instrument and spirit, through the seven colours of the trance. Compelling, exciting Moroccan-style music backed on several tracks by blues player Pharoah Sanders. Powerful, hypnotic sounds.

IF THEN...ELSE

by **Candice Pacheco**

Produced by Candice Pacheco for RGB Records (1995), Sausalito, CA, USA
Price: AUD\$19.95, USD\$9.98 (cass.); AUD\$29.95, USD\$15.98 (CD) (47mins)
Available: **Aust**—MRA Entertainment, ph (07) 3849 6020; **USA**—RGB Records, ph (415) 331 3200.

Candice Pacheco is little-known outside the USA. Her experimental, sampled music, though, is at the forefront of the new techno-world-fusion style that's growing today. This album is a collection of sampled material, including Native American flute, Middle Eastern oud and tambourine, finger cymbals, the dumbek and Baroque flute. The effect is somewhat reminiscent of *Deep Forest* at times. If you like upbeat world voice/percussion techno-music, you'll really appreciate this.

A RIVER OF SOUND: A Collection

Produced by Sarah Power
Hummingbird Productions (1995), UK
Price: AUD\$19.95, STG£7.95 (cass.); AUD\$29.95, STG£11.30 (CD) (63mins)
Available: **Aust**—Festival Records, ph (02) 9660 4022; **UK**—Virgin Records, ph 0181 964 6000.

Music on *A River of Sound* was recorded live for the BBC Northern Ireland radio programme, to chart the changing direction of Irish traditional music. It features 130 artists with a wide range of tunes and styles from the wild fiddler to the sedate harpist. Instruments include accordion, piano, tin whistle, cello, bodhrán, mandolin, harmonica, concertina and uilleann pipes. If you love the sound of Irish reels, jigs and traditional voice melodies, you'll love this!